

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the following paragraph beginning at page 21, line 23 as follows:

5 Further, by combining such an optical filter, it is possible to realize a gain
flattening filter changing the transmitting rate dependent on the wavelength in which the
gain of the optical fiber amplifier is ~~flatten~~ flattened. In the invention, a reference
wavelength related to the optical characteristics of various filters can be adjusted. For
example, the representative wavelength is the center wavelength for the band pass filter,
10 and is the wavelength at which the transmitting rate is 50% for the edge pass filter.